



**USDA, APHIS, PPQ
Pest Detection and Management Programs
4700 River Road, Unit 137
Riverdale, MD 20737**

February 11, 2004 PROGRAM UPDATE:

***Ralstonia solanacearum* race 3 biovar**

USDA will not re-certify the Guatemalan place of production owned by Goldsmith Plants, Inc. to export geranium plants to the United States at this time. Several samples taken from geranium plants in the United States and Guatemala that were produced at this facility have tested positive for *Ralstonia solanacearum* race 3 biovar 2.

PPQ and State regulatory officials are continuing to hold, destroy and dispose of the three geranium varieties produced at a Guatemalan production facility that are potentially infected with *Ralstonia solanacearum* race 3 biovar 2.

Nationally, 41 states have a total of 451 suspect facilities, 109 facilities are currently being held, 333 control actions (destruction, disposal and disinfection) are complete, 328 facilities have been released, and more than 1.5 million cuttings or plants have been destroyed, as of February 10.

The 2004 *Ralstonia* action plan is available at:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/ep/ralstonia/rasltoniaactionplanv4web.pdf>

Contact: Matthew Royer 301-734-3769

Matthew.H.Royer@aphis.usda.gov